

findings of the October 27, 2005 final report of the Volker Independent Inquiry Committee (IIC) on the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program; 3. a Government Accountability Office (GAO) status report on two Subcommittees requested investigations of the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the United Nations Procurement System; 4. the findings of a supplemental Minority report on Bayoil oil diversions; and 5. progress toward implementing United Nations management reforms resulting from the September 2005 UN Summit on Reform. The hearing will also examine the oversight by the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) to stop misconduct by U.S. persons doing business under the OFF Program.

The Subcommittee hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 31, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Raymond V. Shepherd, III, Staff Director and Chief Counsel to the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, at 224-3721.

AUTHORITIES FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in closed session to mark up S. 1803, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2006.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 27, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "Issues Regarding the Sending of Remittances and the Role of Financial Institutions."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 27 at 10 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony from the administration on hurricane recovery efforts related to energy and to discuss energy policy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, October 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in room 485 of the Russell

Senate Office Building to conduct a business meeting on the following bills:

(1) S. 1057, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act amendments of 2005.

(2) S. 1003, The Navajo-Hopi Land Settlement amendments of 2005.

(3) S. 692, A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain public land in northwestern New Mexico by resolving a dispute associated with coal preference right lease interests on the land.

(4) S. _____, A bill to extend the statute of limitations for breach of trust claims.

(5) S. 1219, A bill to authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. in Senate Dirksen Office Building room 226.

Agenda:

I. Nominations:

Wan Kim, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division; Steven G. Bradbury, to be an Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel; Sue Ellen Wooldridge, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division; and Thomas O. Barnett, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division.

II. Bills:

S. 1088, Streamlined Procedures Act of 2005, Kyl, Cornyn, Grassley, Hatch;

S. 1789, Personal Data Privacy and Security Act of 2005, Specter, Leahy, Feinstein, Feingold;

S. 751, Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act, Feinstein, Kyl;

S. 1699, Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act, Specter, Leahy, Hatch, DeWine, Cornyn, Brownback, Feingold, Durbin;

S. 1095, Protecting American Goods and Services Act of 2005, Cornyn, Leahy;

H.R. 683, Trademark Dilution Revision Act of 2005, Smith—TX;

S. 1787, Relief to Victims of Hurricane Katrina and Other Natural Disasters Act of 2005, Vitter, Grassley, Cornyn, DeWine;

S. 1647, Hurricane Katrina Bankruptcy Relief and Community Protection Act of 2005, Feingold, Leahy, Durbin, Kennedy, Feinstein; and

S.J. Res. 1, Marriage Protection Amendment, Allard, Sessions, Kyl, Hatch, Cornyn, Coburn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 27, 2005, for a committee hearing titled "The Rising Number of Disabled Veterans Deemed Unemployable: Is the System Failing? A Closer Look at VA's Individual Unemployment Benefit." The hearing will take place in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 2 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 27, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTRY, CONSERVATION, AND RURAL REVITALIZATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization be authorized to conduct a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 27, 2005, at 10 a.m. in room 328A, Senate Russell Office Building. The purpose of this subcommittee hearing will be to conduct oversight of the Forest and Rangeland Research Program of the USDA Forest Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Trade be authorized to meet during the session on Thursday, October 27, 2005, at 2 p.m., to hear testimony on "The Status of World Trade Organization Negotiations."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tec Chapman be allowed to be on the floor during the remainder of this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3765

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 276, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 276) requesting the President to return to the House of Representatives the enrollment of H.R. 3765 so that the Clerk of the House may reenroll the bill in accordance with the action of the two Houses.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 276) was agreed to.

DEBRIS REMOVAL ACT OF 2005

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to immediate consideration of S. 939.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 939) to expedite payments of certain Federal emergency assistance authorized pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to exercise certain authority provided under that Act.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill to which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments.

[Strike the parts shown in black brackets and insert the parts shown in italic.]

S. 939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

[SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.]

[This Act may be cited as the "Disaster Recovery Act of 2005".]

[SEC. 2. EXPEDITED PAYMENTS OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL AND EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES.]

[(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

[(1) ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.—The term "eligible applicant" means—

[(A) a State government;

[(B) a local government;

[(C) a private nonprofit organization or institution that owns or operates any private nonprofit educational, utility, emergency, medical, or custodial care facility, including a facility for the aged or disabled, or any other facility providing essential governmental services to the general public, and such facilities on Indian reservations; and

[(D) an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or an Alaska Native village or organization (other than an Alaska Native Corporation), the ownership of which is vested in a private individual.

[(2) ELIGIBLE CLAIM FOR ASSISTANCE.—The term "eligible claim for assistance" means—

[(A) a claim for the clearance, removal, or disposal of debris (such as trees, sand, gravel, building components, wreckage, vehicles, and personal property), if the debris is the result of an emergency or major disaster and the clearance, removal, or disposal is necessary—

[(i) to eliminate an immediate threat, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, to human life, public health, or safety;

[(ii) to eliminate an immediate threat, as determined by the Secretary, of significant damage to public or private property;

[(iii) to ensure the economic recovery of the community affected by the emergency or major disaster to the benefit of the community and any other community, as determined by the Secretary; or

[(iv) to ensure the provision of temporary public transportation service in the community affected by the emergency or major disaster pursuant to section 419 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5186);

[(B) an action taken by an applicant before, during, or after an emergency or major disaster that is necessary—

[(i) to eliminate or reduce an immediate threat, as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, to human life, public health, or safety; or

[(ii) to eliminate or reduce an immediate hazard, as determined by the Secretary, that threatens significant damage to public or private property; or

[(C) any other claim that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be appropriate.

[(3) EMERGENCY.—The term "emergency" has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

[(4) MAJOR DISASTER.—The term "major disaster" has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

[(b) EXPEDITED PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED.—Notwithstanding the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) (including any regulation promulgated pursuant to that Act), the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall pay to an eligible applicant, in accordance with subsection (c), 50 percent of the Federal share of assistance that the applicant is eligible to receive under section 403(b), 407(d), or 503 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b(b), 5173(d), 5193).

[(c) DATE OF PAYMENT.—A claim described in subsection (b) shall be paid not later than 60 days after the date on which the applicant files an eligible claim for assistance.

[SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT TO ENSURE DEBRIS CLEARANCE, REMOVAL, AND DISPOSAL FROM EMERGENCY ACCESS ROADS.]

[(a) DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD.—In this section, the term "emergency access road" means a road that requires access by emergency personnel, including firefighters, police, emergency medical personnel, or any other entity identified by the Secretary of Homeland Security that provides an emergency service after a declaration of an emergency or major disaster (as defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)).

[(b) REQUIREMENT.—Any reimbursement authorized under section 407 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5173) for clearing and removing debris shall include reimbursement for clearing, removing, and disposing of debris from any emergency access road.

[SEC. 4. INCLUSION OF DEBRIS REMOVAL FROM PRIVATE LAND AS ELIGIBLE CLAIM FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.]

[Section 408(c)(2)(A) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)(2)(A)) is amended—

[(1) in clause (i), by striking "and" at the end;

[(2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

[(3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

["(iii) the removal, clearance, and disposal of debris from private property that is the result of an emergency or major disaster."].

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Debris Removal Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. EXPEDITED PAYMENTS.

(a) EXPEDITED PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED.—Notwithstanding the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) (including any regulation promulgated pursuant to that Act), the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall pay to an eligible applicant, in accordance with subsection (b), 50 percent of the Federal share of assistance that the applicant is eligible to receive under section 407 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 5173).

(b) DATE OF PAYMENT.—A claim described in subsection (a) shall be paid not later than 60 days after the date on which the applicant files an eligible claim for assistance.

SEC. 3. DEBRIS CLEARANCE, REMOVAL, AND DISPOSAL FROM EMERGENCY ACCESS ROADS.

(a) DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD.—In this section, the term "emergency access road" means a road that requires access by emergency personnel, including firefighters, police, emergency medical personnel, or any other entity identified by the Secretary of Homeland Security that provides an emergency service after a declaration of an emergency or major disaster (as defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)).

(b) REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORIZED.—Any reimbursement authorized under section 407 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5173) for clearing and removing debris may include reimbursement for clearing, removing, and disposing of debris from any emergency access road.

SEC. 4. INCLUSION OF DEBRIS REMOVAL AS ELIGIBLE CLAIM FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 408(c)(2)(A) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following: "(iii) the removal of debris and wreckage resulting from a major disaster from owner occupied private residential property, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) as necessary for a safe and sanitary living or functioning condition.".

SEC. 5. APPLICABILITY; TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.

This Act and the authority provided by this Act (including by any amendment made by this Act) shall—

(1) apply to each major disaster declared in accordance with section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) during calendar year 2005; and

(2) terminate on the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment at the desk be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment, as amended, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the title amendment be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.